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# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-4402

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## COMMITTEES:

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The President  
The White House  
Washington, D.C. 20500

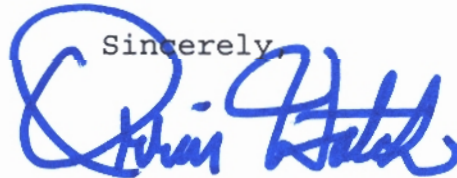
Dear Mr. President:

I write to request your attention to a devastating disaster in southwest Utah. As you know, Washington and Iron Counties in my state have recently experienced disastrous floods, leading Governor Jon Huntsman, Jr., to request your designation of this region as a national disaster area. I strongly support the Governor's request.

On January 10, 2005, unusual precipitation combined with a sudden snow melt from unseasonably warm weather created a hundred-year flood in the Santa Clara and Virgin rivers which run through highly populated neighborhoods in Washington County. More than a dozen homes have been completely swept away, important bridges have been destroyed, and important infrastructures for electricity, natural gas, water, and phones have been permanently ruined. Federal assistance will be absolutely necessary to restore basic needs to this very populated area of Utah.

I urge you to act quickly in designating this region as a national disaster area. Thank you very much for your attention to this matter. Please let me know if I can be of service in this regard.

Sincerely,



Orrin G. Hatch  
United States Senator

OGH:jjb